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JOSE M. OCHOA.

YEARS AGO.

She was seated close beside me,
On a May day, years ago;
Heart of mine, you must not chide me,
I was but a boy, you know.

"No secret, I'll reveal it,
Heart of mine, 'twas long ago;
This lock of hair, if I did send it,
I was but a boy, you know."

Was she pretty? Did I love her?
Heart of mine, 'twas years ago;
And that pang of blue is over,
I was but a boy, you know.

"Was she rich?"—now that is funny.
Heart of mine, 'twas long ago;
What cared I for lands or money?
I was but a boy, you know.

"And you parted—how you missed her!"
Heart of mine, 'twas years ago;
"And you pressed her hand and kissed her,"
I was but a boy, you know.

Do I love her yet?—O sister,
Fare you past, then heart of mine;
Fare you past, then heart of mine;
Fare you past, then heart of mine.

And the heart that was so true,
And the heart that was so true,
And the heart that was so true,
And the heart that was so true.

REGULATION OF THE FRENCH PRESS.

In an article in *Harper's Magazine*, George Merrill tells how the press is regulated in France. The laws which regulate the press continue to be very stringent, though some modifications of a liberal character have been introduced since the fall of the empire. Thus all attacks on the constituted authorities, or on the religion of the state, or on either of the religions whose establishment is recognized by law, as well as all attacks upon the sovereign or other head of a foreign state, all publication of false news, all writings which excite the commission of crimes or misdemeanors, or incite one class of citizens to hatred of another class, and all defamation of individuals, are punishable by fine and imprisonment, while the publication of merely insulting or abusive articles, not specifying any matter of fact to the detriment of private individuals—i. e., a simple injury, as distinguished from defamation—is punishable by fine only.

The accused is not permitted to justify a libel by proof of its truth, except when it refers to some action of a public officer in the discharge of his duties as such. And only in this latter case is the publication of the proceedings at the trial allowed, though, of course, the judgment may be published. This appears to us a very salutary provision of law, which might well be introduced in America.

The deposit of security (consisting of an actual payment in cash) in the hands of the Government was abolished in October, 1870, but was re-established by the law of July 6, 1871, though the amount thereof is only about one-half of that fixed by the law of 1852, the sums now required being, for every periodical appearing more than three times a week, if published in the Department of the Seine, 24,000 francs, and in any other department 12,000 francs, if published in a city having more than 50,000 inhabitants, and 6,000 francs in other cases; and for all other periodicals (except non political publications appearing not more frequently than once a week), 18,000 francs in the Department of the Seine, and in the other departments one-half of the amounts specified above. The sum so deposited as security is primarily applicable to the payment of all damages and costs awarded against the proprietor or manager of the paper which publishes as libellous article, or against the author of such article. The stamp duty upon newspapers, which existed under the empire, was abolished by decree of Sept. 5, 1870. Every publisher is still obliged to deposit two copies of every newspaper, or other periodical issued by him, in the hands of the public authorities. The law of Dec. 29, 1875, provides that no administrative authority shall have the right to prohibit the sale on the public streets of any particular journal. But the most important change recently effected in favor of the press is that made by the law of April 15, 1871, removing press offenses from the jurisdiction of the Tribunal Correctionnel, and submitting them to trial by jury before the courts of assize.

PUT YOUR SHOULDERS BACK.

Much of the proverbial slenderness and physical frailty of our girls, as compared with those of other countries, has been charged to intellectual habits and overwork in study. It is unquestionably true that they need outdoor life and more education in development. Many American girls, through inattention to the way of carrying themselves, unconsciously contract the habit of bringing the shoulders forward and stooping. This position not only detracts greatly from their appearance, but it is also very pernicious in point of health. The celebrated Aaron Burr, in a letter to his daughter Theodosia, afterward the wife of Gov. Alston, of South Carolina, wrote as follows on this subject:

"Your habit of stooping and bringing your shoulders forward upon your breast not only disfigures you, but is alarming on account of your health. The continuance of this vile habit will certainly produce consumption. Then farewell pleasure, farewell life! This is no exaggeration, no fiction to excite your apprehensions. And, setting aside this distressing consideration, I am astonished that you have no more pride in your appearance; you will certainly stint your growth and disfigure your person."

There is reason to believe that Miss Burr gave heed to this admonition of her good father, for she afterward became renowned for her beauty as well as for superior mental endowments and accomplishments.

CONJUGAL affection depends largely upon mutual confidence. "I make it a rule," said a wiseacre to his friend, "to tell my wife everything that happens. In this way we avoid any misunderstandings." Not to be outdone in generosity, the good friend replied: "Well, sir, you are not so open and frank as I am, for I tell my wife a great many things that never happen."

PLEASANTRIES.

The syllable "leo" in olemargarina means that it is strong as a lion.

The fellow who was much struck by a young lady wanted to return a kiss for the blow.

FRANKLIN has Ben jamin his philosophy into everybody ever since we can remember.

The evening had been convivial. "And now, gentlemen," said the Chairman, "I'll propose a toast."

Why does the new moon remind one of a giddy girl? Because she is too young to show much reflection.

Motto of the good collector—Never put off until to-morrow what can be done to-day.—*Philadelphia Chronicle*.

RAVENS fed the prophet Elijah in ancient days, but golden eagles feed the prophets of the present day.—*Whithall Times*.

BEECHER says, "We pray too much." This explains why the average newspaper man's breeches always lag at the knees.

A BROOKLYN fashion paper stated that "maiden's blush" was a fashionable color, and none of the readers had any idea what it was like.

SEVERAL notable happy marriages have been made on two hours' courtship, but it is a pretty safe rule to know the girl for at least three days and a picnic.

"Now, SAMMY, have you read the story of Joseph?" "Oh, yes, uncle."

"Well, then, what wrong did they do when they sold their brother?" "They sold him too cheap."

A Boston young lady, who moved to a certain Wisconsin town, is disappointed to find that the young men of whom she is most fond—du Lac culture, and she is going back.—*Cincinnati Saturday Night*.

It would never do to select women to office. If a female Sheriff should visit the residence of a handsome man and explain to his wife that she had an attachment for him, there would be a vacancy in the office in about two minutes.

"A SCIENTIST named Mivart will soon issue a work on the cat," says the *New Haven Register*. "We've done that already. It was a heavy copy of Shakespeare's plays, and we issued it from a third-story window, and it took her right between the two shoulders, and we hope it broke her blamed back.—*Boston Post*."

PATERNAL wisdom: "Pa, what is a shape?" "Why—him—ensilage, my son, is—un—ensilage is—oh, something like mangeling, my son; something like angeling; used to stick things together, you know. There, now, run away to your play, and don't disturb me now."

And that boy thinks his pa is a very encyclopedia of wisdom.

The teacher had grown eloquent in picturing to his little pupils the beauties of heaven, and he finally asked: "What kind of little boys go to heaven?" A lively 4-year-old boy, with kicking boots, flourished his fist. "Well, you may answer," said the teacher.

"Dead ones!" the little fellow shouted, at the extent of his lungs.

"DARK again, eh?" said the magistrate, contracting his brows and looking severely at the prisoner. "Yes, yer Honor," candidly returned Pat; "I was after spittin' wood at yer Honor's house, and the lady asked me wud I take satisfaction. 'I will,' says I, and I took two glasses, but if I had known yer Honor kept such bad liquor, 'pon me sowl, I 'ouldn't have tuk but wan."

"My wife got mad—terribly mad—at me last night," said Ragbag. "She threatened to leave me and sue for a divorce, and, by Jove! I was awfully scared, for I think she meant it. But I had presence of mind. I said I hoped she would; begged, implored her to do so, and then she swore she'd bring me to my death, just to spite me. A woman is a darn curious critter to manage, anyway."

WALTER SCOTT AND HIS DOGS.

So intimately were Scott's dogs bound up with his life, says a writer in *Temple Bar*, that when his last financial difficulties crowded upon him and it was for a time in his mind whether it would not be best to sell Abbotsford, the thought of parting from "these dumb creatures" moved him more than any other painful reflections; and he could only hope "there may yet be those who, loving me, will love my dog because it has been mine." Before he started as an invalid for Naples, one of his written instructions referred to the management of his dogs; and again and again, during his foreign sojourn, he gave strict, tender and minute injunctions to Laidlaw, his steward, to be "very careful of the poor people and the dogs." He was always thinking of them. It was during this last hopeless journey that he spoke to the large Danish hound which, stranger though he was, fawned upon him at the Castle of Bracciano of his "fitness as an accompaniment to such a castle," but that he himself had "larger dogs at home, though, may be, not so good-natured to strangers." It was in Naples, too, where Sir William Gell's huge dog used to be fondled by Scott, and talked to, and informed of the "dogs he had at home;" while he would confide to Sir William how he had "two very fine favorite dogs, Nimrod and Bran"—"so large that I am always afraid they look too large and too feudal for my diminished house." And it was his dogs who, as the last days drew near, came round his chair and began to fawn on him and lick his hands, while their dying master smiled or sobbed over them.

A UNITED STATES BOUNDARY LINE.

The northern boundary of this country is marked by some curious iron pillars, wood pillars, earth mounds and timber posts. A stone cairn is 7x8 feet, an earth mound 7x14 feet, an iron pillar 8 feet high, 8 inches square at the bottom, and 4 inches at the top; timber posts 5 feet high and 8 inches square. There are 382 of these marks between the Lake of the Woods and the base of the Rocky mountains. That portion of the boundary which lies east and west of the Red river valley is marked by cast-iron pillars at even-mile intervals. The British place one every two miles and the United States one between each two British posts. Our pillars or markers were made at Detroit, Mich. They are hollow iron castings, three-eighths of an inch in thickness, in the form of a truncated pyramid, 8 feet high, 8 inches square at the bottom and 4 inches at the top, as before stated.

They have at the top a solid pyramidal cap, and at the bottom an octagonal flange one inch in thickness. Upon the opposite faces are cast in letters two inches high the inscriptions, "Convention of London" and "Oct. 20, 1818."

The inscriptions begin about four feet six inches above the base, and read upward. The interiors of the hollow posts are filled with well-seasoned cedar posts, sawed to fit, and securely spiked through spike-holes cast in the pillars for that purpose. The average weight of each pillar when completed is eighty-five pounds. The pillars are set four feet in the ground, with their inscription faces to the north and south, and the earth is well settled and stamped about them.

For the wooden posts well-seasoned logs are selected, and the portion above the ground painted red, to prevent swelling and shrinking. These posts do very well, but the Indians cut them down for fuel, and nothing but iron will last very long. Where the line crosses lakes, monuments of stone have been built, the bases being in some places eighteen feet under water and the tops projecting eight feet above the lake's surface at high-water mark. In forests the line is marked by felling the timber a rod wide and clearing away the undergrowth. The work of cutting through the timbered swamps was very great, but it has been well done and the boundary distinctly marked by the Commissioners the whole distance from Michigan to Alaska.

DANGERS OF ATHLETIC TRAINING.

Absolute health is attained only by the symmetrical development of all parts of the body. The man with muscles of steel and a diseased heart cannot be said to be in good health, and diseases of the stomach, heart and nervous system are often—it may even be said usually—produced by that system of development known as training. At a recent rowing match in Philadelphia, two plucky lads in contesting boats fainted as soon as the race was over. Their condition, which was apparently good, was actually abnormal, and their systems gave way because the strain which their muscles met was too great for their vital functions. A similar but more serious calamity occurred at Sag Harbor. A Brooklyn lad who had taken part in a pedestrian contest, when removed from the track, fell down dead. He had prepared himself for walking and running, and depleted his vital organs to build up his limbs. When the strain came the impoverished and most important part gave way. The severe muscular exercise of college athletes has carried off many fine young men by consumption, heart disease and other disorders, directly, traceable to the absurd overwork required of their bodies. There is a limit of human endurance. The limit is reached when the body is impeded in one quarter to benefit special organs. The severity of the test by which athletes prizes are won seems designed rather to award to him who is the least healthy, because more unevenly developed, than to the really best man.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

BROTHER GARDNER'S PHILOSOPHY.

"I was cleanin' off de sidewalk de oder day," observed the old man as the meeting opened, "when long cum a man who war achin' for somebody to knock him down. He didn't 'zactly know what to say to begin a fuss, but he finally made out to remark dat if he war Mayor of dis city he'd run all de niggers into de ribber. I felt it my duty to bring de snow shovel down on top his head, an' he drapped. He stayed drapped for about five minutes, an', when he got up an' pursued his way, his opinyuns seemed to have undergone a great change. I spoke of dis becase I want every member of dis club to realize dat de only rule wud 'bin' by an' dat which uses men just as dey use you. Try to lib by any oder rule an' you will be cheated, swindled, abused an' robbed every week in de yar. De man who thinks he has sufficient provocation to kick you will feel a contempt fur you if you don't kick back. De man who robs you expects to be dealt with as a robber. Deal wid him as an angel and he would sneer at you. No man has a right to expect better treatment dan he an' willin' to bestow, an' few do expect it."

ABABLE land in England has been gradually decreasing in area, the decrease in five years being 442,000 acres, and there has also been a decrease in the number of cattle, a decrease of no fewer than 3,000,000 sheep since 1874, and an appreciable reduction in the number of pigs and horses.

OHIO papers are discussing why quail freeze to death. It is simply because they can't afford to pay \$7 a ton for coal.

"PAPA" AND "MAMMA."

An early instance which occurs to me is in the "Beggars' Opera" (1727), where Polly Peachum, I think it is, speaks of her "papa." The modern change from "papa" and "mamma" to father and mother among the upper classes, which began about thirty years ago, seems to have been a reaction against a custom which had gradually crept in among persons of a lower grade. As soon as common people's children began to say "papa" and "mamma" those of a higher class were taught to say "father" and "mother." It was among my high-church friends that I first noticed this adoption of "father" and "mother." One does not see the connection, but such is the fact. When I was young "papa" and "mamma" were universal among what may be called the middle and upper ranks of society, and to this day "ladies of a certain age" still use the words. King George III., about the year 1763, addressed his mother as "mamma," so I find in the "Grenville Memoirs." But I do not think that Charles II., unless he was speaking in French, ever addressed Henrietta Maria by that endearing name, and I feel tolerably sure that the Lady Elizabeth never called Henry VIII. "papa." On the other hand I would observe that "papa" and "mamma" are fast being supplanted by the old original "father" and "mother." For ten, or perhaps for twenty, years last past, children in the upper and upper-middle classes have, so far as my observation goes, been taught to say "father" and "mother," and "papa" and "mamma," which are words of extreme tenderness to those of my generation, seem now to have sunk into contempt as a "note" of social inferiority.—*Notes and Queries*.

SPEECHES LEARNED BY HEART.

I have never yet precisely understood why it is considered the most vicious thing that can be said of a man that he learns his speeches by heart. I should have imagined that an audience ought to be grateful to a speaker for taking this trouble. To complain of it is to regard speaking like dancing on a tight-rope, and to innuendate it with difficulties in order to derive pleasure from seeing them overcome. In nine cases out of ten a learned speech is better than an unlearned one. I have always envied the memory of those who, without hesitation or pause, can deliver a set oration. One of the greatest adepts of this art was Lord Beaconsfield, who, although a fluent and ready impromptu speaker, often adopted it. More than once he has launched a speech to the reporters at meetings, and he has then repeated it without the mistake of a word. I once tried to do this; some one had explained to me a system of mnemonics, by means of which everything was to be remembered by locating phrases in different corners of the room. For five minutes I got on beautifully, but, when I had exhausted one corner and turned to the next, my key became confused, and I ignominiously broke down.—*London Truth*.

WOODEN PIPES.

Wooden pipes are now being used in Switzerland to convey the waters of a thermal mineral spring between Pflizer and Ragaz. They are constructed of fire-wood made into staves, and bound together by means of iron hoops. After being carefully tarred both inside and out, they are perfectly water-tight, and possess many advantages over metal piping. They are, of course, much lighter, and are insensible to changes of temperature, while their cost is only about 8 shillings per meter. It is interesting to note that the New River water was first brought to London by means of wooden pipes formed by boring out tree-trunks and joining them length by length. Such pipes have been extensively used in America, and they are under the best conditions, estimated at last thirty years.—*English paper*.

POOR MISS THIER. Thiers, after the death of her husband, who used to keep the table animated by his intellectual babble, began to feel a disgust for food. There was no animating power in the old friends and relations who gathered round her. When the bell was rung for the midday or evening repast she often sent down word that she did not feel inclined to eat, and begged that her sister would take the head of the table. Sometimes she prolonged her fast for several days, and only took, when weak from long abstinence from food, a cup of broth, or of chocolate, which she swallowed down at once. It did not appear to her food; but she turned with repugnance from anything solid. The digestive organs thus became paralyzed.

CHARLES SUMNER, Mr. Z. L. White says, did not know what dyspepsia was. Speaking of his good fortune in this respect one evening, he said that one of the best requisites to success in political life was a good digestion, and he reminded his visitor that a majority of the Senators were portly men. While he admitted that slim, dyspeptic men sometimes attain high position, still he maintained that in order to do